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REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-17 have been amended in this response. Claims 18-24 have been cancelled. Applicants respectfully submit no new matter has been added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The Examiner has objected to the Abstract due to excessive wording and claim 5 due to a minor informality. As set forth above, Applicants have amended the Abstract and claim 5 in accordance with the Examiner's comments. Accordingly these objections are now moot in view of the Applicants' amendments. Withdrawal of these objections is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11, 13-17, 21, 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,857,190 to Brown (Brown) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,067,107 to Travaille et al. (Travaille) and U.S. Publication No. US 2003/0105845 A1 to Leermakers (Leermakers).

Claims 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Travaille, Leermakers and U.S. Patent No. 5,889,954 to Gessel (Gessel).

Claims 2 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown Travaille and Leermakers as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Gessel.

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown Travaille and Leermakers as applied to claim 21 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,466,972 to Paul et al. (Paul).

Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown Travaille and Leermakers as applied to claim 11 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,052,554 to Hendricks et al. (Hendricks).

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown

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Travaille, Leermakers and Gessel as applied to claim 18 above, and further in view of Hendricks.

Initially, in regards to the above rejections directed toward claims 18, 19, 20 and 22, Applicants have cancelled claims 18 and 24 as set forth above. Applicants, therefore, will not be setting forth arguments or comments in regards to the individual rejections that are set forth in the Office Action in regards to the cancelled claims. The following comments address rejections directed toward pending claims 1-17 which have been amended as set forth above.

103 Rejection Based Upon Brown, Travaille and Leermakers

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-11, 13-17, 21, 23 and 24 stand rejected based upon the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers. The Office Action states in regard to claim 1 that Brown discloses a number of elements of claim 1, specifically, application servers which include application programs that are transmitted via broadcasting centers through communication satellites where the communication satellites then transmit signals to satellite dishes for reception by integrated receiver decoders, and where the integrated receiver decoders include callback functionality to interactive servers that log stored data within the interactive data repositories. The Office Action cites to Travaille specifically for the use of memory in a broadcast receiver that stores viewer responses in a flash memory. The Office Action cites to Leermakers for disclosure of broadcast satellite system that uses a modem to transmit user data for providing an upstream path of client/user data. Accordingly, the Office Action states that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Brown, Travaille and Leermakers systems to achieve the subject matter of the present invention.

Brown relates to an event logging system for an interactive entertainment network system capable of logging a large number of and currently receiver the events generated at subscriber

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homes. Based upon the disclosure of Brown, individual events that are logged for recording include channel up/down, button presses, service requests, warnings and errors of possible events that might be detected at the user interface units.

Travaille relates to an interactive broadcast system that uses methods to manage the response capacity of the interactive system. The system of Travaille includes a broadcast server that makes periodic readjustment of priority values for various response types and in broadcast receivers that receive priority value assignments from the broadcast server in order to selectively determine for each interactive application whether or not to execute and/or capture responses.

Leermakers relates to a communication system consisting of a server system that stores software applications, a broadcast system that broadcasts the software applications and a multiplicity of portable clients that each include a receiver having a tuner that is selectively tunable to receive one or the software applications broadcast by the broadcast system.

As set forth above, Applicants have made amendments to claim 1 to more clearly recite the subject matter of the present invention and to add further features that are not disclosed, described, taught or suggested within the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers. Specifically, claim 1 now includes a recitation of interactive servers that encapsulate data to an appropriate protocol where each interactive server includes a 333 MHz CPU or greater and 256 RAM or greater. Also claim 1 now includes a router within each interactive server where said router includes a routing application that is written in Unix C or open TV. Although the cited combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers may have taught or suggested the original claim 1, amended claim 1, as set forth above, is not taught or suggest by this combination. Accordingly, since the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation as now set forth in the amended claim 1, the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers cannot support this obviousness rejection as set forth in the Office Action. Dependent

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claims 3-7, 9-11 and 13 all depend from independent claim 1 and also stand allowable over this combination for at least the same reasons as set forth above in regards to amended claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

In regard to amended claim 14, claim 14 recites a method for obtaining data regarding a customer use of interactive TV. Claim 14 has been amended to include similar features as recited in the system claim of amended claim 1. Specifically to the recited features related to the interactive servers and the routing applications. Accordingly, amended claim 14 along with dependent claims 15-17 are not obvious in view of the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers for the same reasons as set forth in regard to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants further request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 14-17 based upon the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers.

Claims 2 and 8 stand rejected based upon the combination of Brown, Travaille, Leermakers and Gessel. The Office Action states that the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers as applied to claim 1 and in further view of Gessel renders claims 2 and 8 obvious. The Examiner relies on the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers as applied in the rejection of claim 1 and cites to Gessel for teaching a network manager system where data is encapsulated in a TCP/IP protocol before transmission. In regards to claim 8, the Office Action states that Gessel teaches the encapsulation into TCP/IP protocol for the benefit of allowing different host processors using different formats to communicate. Claims 2 and 8 both depend from amended claim 1. Accordingly, claims 2 and 8 include the features as recited in claim 1 and specifically the inclusion of an interactive routers that include CPUs of 333 MHz or greater and 256 RAM or greater, and the routing applications written in Unix C or Open TV codes. Applicants, therefore, submit that claims 2 and 8 now overcome this obviousness rejection. The combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers as stated above does not render amended claim 1 as obvious and, therefore, cannot

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support the further rejection of claims 2 and 8 in further view of Gessel. Gessel relates to a network manager for configuring and controlling an assimilated telecommunications network having a plurality of nodes which communicate in a plurality of communication protocols. Gessel specifically does not cure the deficiencies as discussed above with the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2 and 8 are not obvious based upon the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers in view of Gessel. Applicants, therefore, request withdrawal of this rejection.

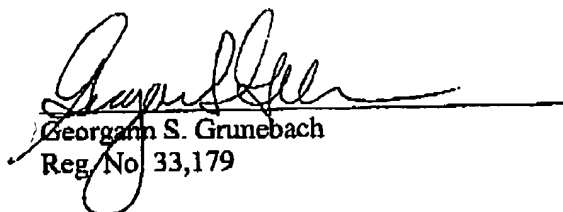
Claim 12 stands rejected based upon the combination Brown, Travaille and Leermakers as applied to claim 11 in further view of Hendricks. Claim 12 depends from amended claim 1 and, accordingly, the arguments set forth above in regards to claim 1 directed toward the combination of Brown, Travaille and Leermakers applies equally to dependent claim 12. Hendricks relates to a digital television program delivery system that provides subscribers with menu driven assets to an expanded television program package. The Office Action cites to Hendricks for disclosure of a cable television distribution system wherein satellite is used for communication between an operation center and a cable head in. Hendricks, however, fails to cure the deficiencies in regards to Brown, Travaille and Leermakers as discussed in regards to amended claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Brown, Travaille, Leermakers and Hendricks does not render claim 12 as obvious. Withdrawal of this rejection is, therefore, respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

Based upon the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt allowance of all pending claims is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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